

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 2, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.
CITY OF ALTOONA TRAINING FACILITY & COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1320 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:00 PM

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Present: Council members Butterbaugh, Cacciotti, Carper, Ickes (via phone), Kelley (via phone) and Mayor Pacifico

Absent: Councilwoman Jordan

PRESENTATIONS – John Carnicella provided an overview of the Police Pension Fund stating the Police run their own pension and they were told at some point that it was not required to involve Council; Mr. Carnicella stated there was an RFP in 1997 when Wells Fargo received the award; they hired Steve Pfiester & Associates to consult and make sure there were no audit findings; Mr. Carnicella suggested Fire and Non-Uniform use Marquette and requested Police stay with Wells Fargo for one more year and then review performance.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT (via telephone) – Mayor Pacifico called for public comment. The call-in number is included on this agenda and on the City's website calendar approximately one week prior to the meeting. The number is also displayed on Public Access Channel 14 at this time for television viewers. There was no public comment.

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, November 9, 2020. (0117-20)
- b) authorizing the City of Altoona to enter into an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for use of the dotGrants on-line reporting system, in order to file the required Liquid Fuels forms annually, including but not limited to the MS-965, MS-329, and MS-999 forms, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all Documents associated with this agreement and for the City Clerk to attest to same. (0118-20)
- c) amending the 2018 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring \$6,006.04 from the Youth Empowerment Program to Family Services, Inc., Homeless Shelter Rehabilitation for the rehabilitation of the structure at 2300 North Branch Avenue, to create a 35-bed family shelter to serve persons with special needs, the homeless and battered spouses. (0119-20)
- d) amending the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring \$25,000.19 from the Center for Independent Living of South Central

Pennsylvania's (CILSPA) Home Accessibility Project and \$25,000.00 from the Nehemiah After-School Program to the Family Services, Inc., Homeless Shelter Rehabilitation for the rehabilitation of the structure at 2300 North Branch Avenue, to create a 35-bed family shelter to serve persons with special needs, the homeless and battered spouses. (0120-20)

e) amending the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) correcting the Fiscal Year 2020 CDBG Allocation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from \$1,643,245.00 to the corrected amount of \$1,643,051.00 and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents. (0121-20)

f) amending the 2020 HOME Grant Program correcting the Fiscal Year 2020 HOME Allocation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from \$353,129.00 to the corrected amount of \$353,056.00 and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents. (0122-20)

g) appointing Ted Beam of 1207 Adams Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to the Zoning Hearing Board to fill the unexpired term of Donna Royer. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2026. (0123-20)

h) pursuant to Ordinance No. 5771, Electrical Examiners Board to establish an Electrical and Plumbing Examiners Board and Ordinance No. 5772, Plumbing Board to establish an Electrical and Plumbing Examiners Board, adopted October 14, 2020, wherein City Council created a single Electrical and Plumbing Examiners Board, the following individuals are hereby appointed to the Electrical and Plumbing Examiners Board as follows: Licensed Electricians - Thomas Schultz, said term expires January 2026; Stu Sellers, said term expires January 2025; Christopher Marana, said term expires January 2024; Licensed Plumbers - Michael Seidel, said term expires January 2026 and General Contractor - Lou Ventura, said term expires January 2026. (0124-20)

i) confirming City Council's authority to direct the selection of police pension fund investment management and custodial services provider(s) and appointing the City Manager to act as Controller for purposes of membership on the City's Fire Pension Fund Board and Non-Uniformed Pension Fund Board. (0125-20)

j) approving the City Council Meeting Schedule for the year 2021, in accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Altoona. (0126-20)

k) authorizing the extension of the term of exemptions, deductions, abatements and credits for real property, earned income tax, net profits, mercantile and business privilege taxes within a specific geographic area in the City of Altoona, Blair County, designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone ("KOEZ"), or Keystone

Opportunity Improvement Zone ("KOIZ") in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial, and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration within areas of the City of Altoona, Blair County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon certain terms and conditions. This rescinds Resolution No. 0070-20 adopted July 8, 2020. (0127-20)

l) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$50.00 submitted by Dennis Garlock of 128 E. 1st Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 109 Lloyd Street, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0128-20)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the consent vote was taken by the City Clerk on all items and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

ORDINANCES

Adoption - The Governing Body

1)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, IN THE COUNTY OF BLAIR, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, DURING THE YEAR 2021. (2021 BUDGET ORDINANCE) (ORD. NO. 5774)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – the Governing Body

Motion for Adoption – the Governing Body

Second – the Governing Body

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

Adoption - Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh

2)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA INCURRING "LEASE RENTAL DEBT," AS DEFINED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,500,000, EVIDENCED BY ITS GUARANTY OF 100% OF THE PAYMENTS DUE UNDER A "DEBT OBLIGATION" OF THE ALTOONA WATER AUTHORITY ISSUED TO THE PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (PENNVEST), IN CONNECTION WITH THE WATER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE AUTHORITY, AND PAY RELATED EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING A GUARANTY AGREEMENT, BY AND AMONG THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AS GUARANTOR, THE AUTHORITY, AND PENNVEST, AS LENDER, SECURING THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PLEDGING (1) CERTAIN WATER SYSTEM LEASE REVENUES OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AND (2) THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT,

TAXING POWER OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, IN SUPPORT OF ITS GUARANTY; APPOINTING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH GUARANTY; AND AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS. (ORD. NO. 5775)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Cacciotti
Second – Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0;
Councilwoman Jordan was absent

Adoption - Councilman Ickes

3)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA INCURRING "LEASE RENTAL DEBT," AS DEFINED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$36,615,700, EVIDENCED BY ITS GUARANTY OF 100% OF THE PAYMENTS DUE UNDER A "DEBT OBLIGATION" OF THE ALTOONA WATER AUTHORITY ISSUED TO THE PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (PENNVEST), IN CONNECTION WITH THE SEWER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE AUTHORITY, AND PAY RELATED EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING A GUARANTY AGREEMENT, BY AND AMONG THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AS GUARANTOR, THE AUTHORITY, AND PENNVEST, AS LENDER, SECURING THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PLEDGING (1) CERTAIN SEWER SYSTEM LEASE REVENUES OF THE CITY, AND (2) THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT, AND TAXING POWER OF THE CITY, IN SUPPORT OF ITS GUARANTY; APPOINTING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH GUARANTY; AND AUTHORIZING ELATED ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS. (ORD. NO. 5776)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Ickes
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Carper
Second – Mayor Pacifico
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0;
Councilwoman Jordan was absent

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Councilman Carper acknowledged the nurses and medical professionals who held a Vigil on November 19th for those who lost their lives to COVID in Blair County and thanked the medical professionals who are on the front lines against the pandemic and asked that they are kept in the thoughts and prayers of the public during what will most likely be a difficult period over the next few months; Councilman Carper stated this will be a difficult holiday for many and he encouraged the public to practice good pandemic protocol by wearing masks and social distancing and generally being responsible.

Councilman Kelley asked all to keep the non-profit organizations like the Salvation Army and their Kettle Drive in their thoughts as they are not able to fund raise as they normally do at this time stating they do a lot of good things in our community; Councilman Kelley encouraged the public to do what they can to support the non-profit organizations whose funds stay in our local community

Councilman Ickes thanked everyone for working through the crazy year of 2020 and encouraged the public to look after themselves and their families and wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2021

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* who asked questions of Mayor Pacifico and City Council members.

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:43 p.m.